

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claim 26 is amended. Claims 27-31 remain in the application. Thus, claims 26-31 are active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

The Applicants appealed the rejection of claims 26-31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Halvorson (U.S. 4,847,764) in view of Kraslavsky (U.S. 5,537,626).

In a Decision On Appeal dated February 7, 2006, the Board of Appeals reversed the rejection of claims 26-31, asserting that the Examiner did not establish a prima facie case of obviousness since Halvorson and Kraslavsky et al. do not disclose or suggest each and every limitation of independent claim 26.

However, in a footnote on page 6 of the Decision, the Board of Appeals asserted that it is unclear whether the phrase “said correlation” in line 16 of claim 26 refers to the correlation between the drug type codes and the printer codes or the correlation between each set of data with one of the drug type codes.”

Claim 26 is amended herein to recite the altering means as “altering said correlation between the drug type codes and the printer codes in response to a signal entered through said input device.” In view of this amendment, the Applicants submit that claim 26 clearly defines that the phrase “said correlation” in line 16 refers to the correlation between the drug type codes and the printer codes.

Accordingly, in view of the Board of Appeal’s reversal of the rejection of claims 26-31 and having addressed all objections raised by the Board of Appeals, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 26-31 are now clearly in condition for allowance.

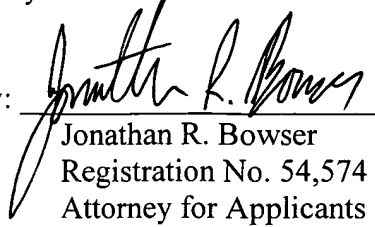
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is respectfully solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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